

REMARKS

Upon entry of the amendments, claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-21, and 28 will be pending in the application. The Office Action indicates that Claims 1-7, 12-14, and 19-21 have been allowed. Further, the Office Action indicates that claims 9-11 and 16-18 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form.

Claim Amendments

Claims 8, 15, and 22-27 have been canceled. Claims 9-11 have been amended to incorporate the features of claim 8. Claims 16 and 17 have been amended to incorporate the features of claim 15. Claim 18 (originally a multi-dependent claim that depended from 8 or 12) has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 8. Claim 28 has been added to the application and is similar to claim 18, but incorporates the features of claim 12. No new matter has been introduced that would require further searching or consideration. Further, no claims fees are believed to be due as a result of these amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 8, 15, and 22-27 as obvious in view of Doshi (U.S. 6,277,720) and Schuegraf (U.S. Publication 2003/0062566).

Applicants respectfully assert that this rejection is moot in light of the claim amendments.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully await allowance of the application. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4300. Any overpayment can be credited to Deposit Account No. 02-4300.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 30, 2004

Signature:


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